

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 7, 2005, has been received and reviewed.

Claims 1-31 are currently pending and under consideration in the above-referenced application. Although the Office Action Summary indicates that each of claims 1-31 stands rejected, the body of the Office Action does not state a basis for the rejection of claim 28.

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 9-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for reciting subject matter which is purportedly anticipated by the subject matter described in U.S. Patent 6,857,947 to Wang et al. (hereinafter "Wang").

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single reference which qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102. *Verdegaal Brothers v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Wang does not qualify as prior art to any of the claims of the above-referenced application under any subsection of 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). The above-referenced application is a divisional of and, thus, claims prior under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to U.S. Application Serial No. 09/912,982, which was filed on July 25, 2001. The earliest application to which the application from which Wang issued claims the benefit of priority is January 17, 2002. As the July 25, 2001, priority date of the above-referenced application precedes the January 17, 2002, priority date of the application from which Wang issued, Wang is not prior art to any of the claims of the above-referenced application.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejections of claims 1 and 9-24 is respectfully solicited.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 2, 6-8, 25, and 29-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for reciting subject matter which is assertedly unpatentable over that taught in Wang, in view of teachings from U.S. Patent 6,050,882 to Chen (hereinafter “Chen”).

Claims 3-5, 26, and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being drawn to subject matter that is allegedly unpatentable over the subject matter taught in Wang, in view of teachings from Chen and, further, in view of the teachings of U.S. Patent 5,575,707 to Talieh et al. (hereinafter “Talieh”)

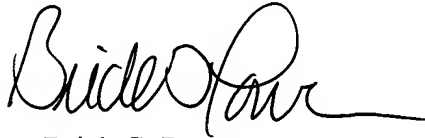
Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) must be based on art that qualifies as prior art under at least one subsection of 35 U.S.C. § 102. As Wang does not qualify as prior art to any of the claims of the above-referenced application under any subsection of 35 U.S.C. § 102, Wang cannot be relied upon in a 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of any of the claims of the above-referenced application.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections of claims 2, 6-8, 25, and 29-31 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-31 is allowable. An early notice of the allowability of each of these claims is respectfully solicited, as is an indication that the above-referenced application has been passed for issuance. If any issues preventing allowance of the above-referenced application remain which might be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Office is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brick G. Power", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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